

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 USPS-01 OC-05 CCO-00 /075 W

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R 142107Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5920

INFO ALL CONSULATES GENERAL IN CANADA VIA POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, CA

SUBJECT: DISPUTES IN PUBLIC SECTOR CONTINUE

REF: OTTAWA 808

1. MONTH-LONG SELECTIVE STRIKE ACTION BY GENRAL LABOR AND TRADES GROUP (GLT) OF PUBLIC SERVICE ALLIANCE OF CANADA REMAINS IN FORCE ALTHOUGH UNRELENTING CRITICISM OF PARLIAMENTARY OPPOSITION CONTRIBUTED TO GOC DECISION TO SEEK EARLY END TO STRIKES THROUGH IMPOSED MEDIATION OR BACK-TO-WORK LEGISLATION.

2. ROTATING STRIKES BY SEVERAL HUNDRED OF THE 18,600 GLT MEMBERS IS HAVING ADVERSE FALL OUT ON CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH POSTAL WORKERS, WHO HAVE REFUSED TO CROSS GLT PICKET LINES AT MAJOR POST OFFICES THROUGHOUT CANADA. THREATS OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY TREASURY BOARD PRESIDENT CHRETIEN AGAINST ESSENTIAL SERVICE WORKERS IN GLT GROUP AND BY POSTMASTER GENERAL MACKASEY AGAINST POSTAL WORKERS, WHO STAGED WALKOUTS IN WAKE OF SUSPENSIONS OF OTHER EMPLOYEES WHO HAD STRUCK ILLEGALLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH GLT STRIKE, HAVE MADE RESPECTIVE UNIONS MORE INTRANSIGENT.

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3. ON ORDER OF PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF RELATIONS BOARD
MEDIATOR WAS GIVEN 48 HOURS (EXPIRING MARCH 14) TO
OBTAIN AGREEMENT IN GLT DISPUTE. IN LAST BARGAINING
ROUND TREASURY BOARD OFFERED 17 PERCENT WAGE INCREASE IN
15-MONTH CONTRACT WITH UNION PROPOSING 23 PERCENT.
GOVERNMENT VIRTUALLY COMMITTED TO INTRODUCE BACK-TO-
WORK LEGISLATION WITH ARBITRATED SETTLEMENT IF CURRENT
LAST-MINUTE NEGOTIATIONS FAIL.

4. ALMOST TWO-WEEK ABSENCE OF LABOR MINISTER MUNRO
FROM PARLIAMENT AND OFFICE (SEE OTTAWA 756) IS NOW
BEING USED BY OPPOSITION TO CALL FOR HIS RESIGNATION IF
HE CANNOT RESUME LEADERSHIP OF HIS DEPARTMENT AT THIS
CRITICAL TIME IN LABOR RELATIONS. MUNRO LEFT HOSPITAL
ON MARCH 10 BUT NO DATE HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR
RESUMPTION OF HIS FUNCTIONS.

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Message Attributes

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